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PATENTS, TRADEMARKS, COPYRIGHTS

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In re Application of: **Beger, et al.**
Application No.: **10/763,961**
Filed: **January 23, 2004**
For: **LOCKING MECHANISM FOR A BONE SCREW**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit: **3732**
Examiner: **David Bonderer**

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is:

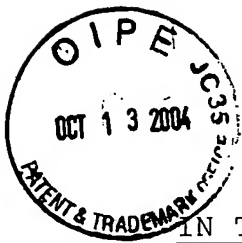
- [X] Response (to restriction/election requirement - 2 pages);
- [X] Return receipt postage prepaid postcard;
- [X] I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: **Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 6, 2004.**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the payment of the required fee(s) or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0625.

Very truly yours,

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Attorney Docket No.: **HOE-593.1**



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P A T E N T

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
BEGER, et al.) Examiner: D. Bonderer
Application No.: 10/763,961) Art Unit: 3732
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For: **LOCKING MECHANISM FOR A BONE SCREW**

MAIL STOP: Amendment
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Signature: Carol Prentice
Carol Prentice

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This is a response to the Restriction/Election Requirement mailed on September 8, 2004.

REMARKS

Summary

The Examiner has required, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121, a restriction to one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-4 drawn to a surgical tool; or
- II. Claims 5-29 drawn to surgical methods.

In the event the method claims are elected, the Examiner has required an election of:

Species A: drawn to a method for revision of an implanted cannulated bone screw; or

Species B: drawn to a method for locking a bone screw to a